## **Preface**

In November 1988, the third Japan/U.S. biostatistics conference in cancer research was convened in Hiroshima, Japan, under the auspices of the U.S./Japan Cooperative Cancer Research Program. A satellite symposium was also organized and held the day before the conference in order to supplement the conference and to bring together as many mathematical scientists and epidemiologists as possible for the conference.

We wish to express our sincere thanks to those who cooperated in the conference and also in the satellite symposium. Selected papers read in the satellite symposium are also included in these proceedings. We hope that this compilation of papers on biostatistics will be useful to scientists involved in research concerning the causes and prevention of cancer. We especially want to promote interdisciplinary dialogue and to contribute to the exchange of ideas among scientists in the two countries for developing new and improved statistical meth-

ods in cancer epidemiology. Although not all methodological areas are covered, current theoretical and applied topics are considered in these proceedings, which are relevant to statistical issues in cancer epidemiology that are being conducted in Japan and in the United States.

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